

In the Claims

Please amend claim 17 to correct the misspelling of "grove" on line 10 of claim 17 to "groove." as follows:

17. (amended) Replaceable ink jet apparatus for an ink jet system, comprising

a container for ink-jet ink and having an outlet; and

a cap for sealing the outlet of said container until ink in a reservoir of an ink-jet system is to be replenished;

said cap comprising a base positionable upon said container and a hollow neck extending from said base and having an exterior surface containing (1) a circumferential groove for receiving a locking collar when ink in a reservoir of an ink-jet system is to be replenished and (2) a taper beyond said circumferential groove for facilitating the entry of said locking collar into said groove.

The foregoing amendment also overcomes the objection to dependent claims 18-20.

SUMMARY OF DETAILED ACTION

Abstract

The single spacing makes reading and a new abstract with lines double spaced is required.

Objection to Claims 17-20

Objection has been made because "grove" on line 10 of claim 17 should be "groove." Correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC Sec. 103

(a) Claims 1-12 and 17-20

These claims have been rejected as being unpatentable over Niedermeyer et al. (US 5,343,226) in view of Ramacier, Jr. et al. (US 5,316,041) and Preszler (US 5,293,913).

Niedermeyer et al. is said to teach the claimed invention except for actuation independently of the reservoir.

Acmacier, Jr. et al. discloses a duplex connector which facilitates fluid connection and disconnection without leakage.

Preszler threaded connections by which a duplex coupler may be connected to an ink bottle and ink reservoir.

The Examiner believes it would have been obvious to substitute the duplex connector of Ramacier for the valve structure of Niedermeyer with threaded connections of Preszler for quick fluid connection and disconnection without leakage.

The steps of the method are deemed obvious from the structure combining the references.

(b) Claims 13-16

These claims have been are rejected as unpatentable over Niedermeyer in view of Ramacier, Preszler and Ito (US 6,053,603).